

VZCZCXRO0201
OO RUEHNH
DE RUEHC #3232 2262310
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 142305Z AUG 06
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE 2943
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 4269
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE 9788
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE 0535
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHIN/AIT TAIPEI IMMEDIATE 7909
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 133232

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/14/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHSA](#) [PGOV](#) [MARR](#) [CH](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: U.S. SURVEY SHIP OPS NEAR SENKAKUS - USG REPLY TO
GOJ DEMARCHE

REF: A. CTE74.10.4.3 0883
[1](#)B. TOKYO 4451
[1](#)C. EAP/J/JALBRIGHT-OSD/IA/JHILL 02AUG06 EMAIL

Classified By: Classified by EAP PDAS Kathleen Stephens for
Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) Per post's request (ref B), following are talking
points
in response to a GOJ demarche in which Japan asked the United
States to explain the activities of U.S. Navy survey vessel
USNS Victorious on August 1 in waters north of the Senkaku
islands and what interactions took place with the Chinese
vessels. The USNS Victorious was sighted by the Japan Coast
Guard traveling "in the same direction and in the same area"
as
three Chinese survey ships, near the median line between the
Exclusive Economic Zones claimed by Japan and China.

[1](#)2. (C/REL JAPAN) Post is asked to deliver the following
points
to the appropriate GOJ interlocutor:

-- USNS Victorious is an ocean surveillance ship. Our ocean
surveillance ships work directly with the Navy, listening for
undersea threats. On August 1, it was engaged in lawful
military activities in international waters, in accordance
with international law.

-- USNS Victorious was NOT/NOT operating in any way with the
Chinese vessels.

-- The Chinese vessels approached the USNS Victorious to ask
what our vessel was doing in what they said was their
exclusive economic zone.

-- USNS Victorious replied that it was engaged in lawful
military activities in international waters, in accordance
with international law. It gave no further details.

(If asked)

-- USNS Victorious was not engaged in marine scientific
research.
RICE